

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently Amended). A method to provide continuity of service in a radio broadcasting system, wherein the radio broadcast system includes comprising at least one modem using [[the]] a COFDM technique, and said radio broadcasting system is configured to transmit comprising the transmission of N time frequency cells modulated independently of one another, wherein the method comprises at least the following steps; comprising:

at transmission[[:]],

[[a)] sending a number N_1 of cells conveying signals ~~needed~~ for [[the]] transmission of a digitized audio signal S_1 , and

[[b)] sending a number N_2 of ~~modulated cells to transmit~~ conveying signals for transmission of an analog signal S_2 ; of analog audio samples,

at reception[[:]],

differentiating, in a received signal S_r , between at least the digitized audio signal S_1 and the analog signal S_2 ;

[[c)] ~~when the signals of the $N_{sub.1}$ cells cannot be decoded, replacing the digitized audio signal S_1 by the analog signal S_2 conveyed by the cells N_2 when the signals of the N_1 cells cannot be decoded.~~

2 (Currently Amended). ~~A method according to claim 1 comprising,~~ A method to provide continuity of service in a radio broadcasting system, wherein the radio broadcast system includes at least one modem using a COFDM technique, and said radio broadcasting system is configured to transmit N time frequency cells modulated independently of one another, the method comprising:

at transmission,

sending a number N_1 of cells conveying signals for transmission of a digitized audio signal S_1 , and

sending a number N_2 of cells conveying signals for transmission of an analog signal S_2 ;

at reception,

replacing the digitized audio signal S_1 by the analog signal S_2 conveyed by the cells N_2 , when the signals of the N_1 cells cannot be decoded, wherein

at transmission, one or more preprocessing steps ~~such as~~ including lowpass filtering, ~~and/or sampling, and/or the introduction of~~ and introducing a delay for the analog signal S_2 ~~consisting of analog samples~~ are performed.

3 (Currently Amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 2, further comprising a ~~step for the compression of~~ compressing the dynamic range before ~~the step for the introduction of~~ introducing the delay for the analog signal S_2 .

4 (Currently Amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 2, further comprising~~[[,]]~~:

at reception, ~~a step to separate~~ separating at least the digitized audio signal S_1 from the signal analog S_2 ; and

~~a step for validating~~ performing validation of the digitized audio signal S_1 in decodable or non-decodable form ~~performed~~ before the replacing step ~~[[c)]]~~.

5 (Currently Amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 2, further comprising~~[[,]]~~:

at reception, ~~at least one step for~~ post-processing the analog signal S_2 , wherein said post-processing includes at least rejecting ~~such as the rejection of~~ background noise.

6 (Currently Amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to as in any one of ~~[[the]]~~ claims 1 to 5, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a proportion of cells N_1 for a passband of about 10 kHz ranges from 50% to 80% of ~~[[the]]~~ a quantity N of available cells.

7 (Currently Amended). A radio broadcasting system ~~comprising~~ including at least one modem using ~~[[the]]~~ a COFDM technique, said modem being represented in a time frequency space by several elementary cells comprising N available cells, ~~at least one transmitter and at least one receiver,~~ wherein the system comprises ~~at least one of the following elements:~~

~~at the~~ a transmitter, wherein said transmitter includes,

~~[[•]]~~ a device ~~adapted to distributing the~~ configured to distribute signals ~~needed for~~ ~~[[the]]~~ transmission of a digitized audio signal S_1 in a number N_1 of cells and signals for the transmission of analog audio signals S_2 in a number N_2 of cells; ~~before their transmission,~~

~~at the~~ a receiver~~[[•]],~~ wherein said receiver includes,

~~[[•]]~~ a device ~~for the differentiation,~~ configured to differentiate, in ~~[[the]]~~ a received signal S_r , ~~[[of]]~~ between at least the digitized audio signal S_1 ~~[[from]]~~ and the analog audio signal S_2 ,

~~[[•]]~~ a device ~~adapted to "qualifying"~~ configured to determine if the digitized audio signal S_1 is in decodable ~~or non-decodable~~ form, and

[[•]] a device configured to replace the digitized audio signal S_1 , which is not in decodable form ~~audible~~, [[by]] with the analog audio signal S_2 .

8 (Currently Amended). ~~A system according to claim 7, comprising at least one of the following elements:~~

A radio broadcasting system comprising including at least one modem using a COFDM technique, said modem being represented in a time frequency space by several elementary cells comprising N available cells, at least one transmitter and at least one receiver, wherein the system comprises at least one of the following elements:

a transmitter, wherein said transmitter includes,

a device configured to distribute signals for transmission of a digitized audio signal S_1 in a number N_1 of cells and signals for the transmission of analog audio signals S_2 in a number N_2 of cells;

said transmitter further includes at least one of,

[[-]] a lowpass filter at the receiver configured to filter the analog audio signal S_2 ,

[[-]] a system ~~for sampling~~ configured to sample the analog audio signal S_2 ,

[[-]] a device ~~designed~~ configured to introduce a delay, and

[[-]] a device ~~used~~ configured to obtain [[the]] a compression of [[the]] a dynamic range of the analog audio signal S_2 ;

a receiver, wherein said receiver includes,

a device configured to differentiate, in a received signal S_r , between at least the digitized audio signal S_1 and the analog audio signal S_2 ,

a device configured to determine that the digitized audio signal S_1 is in decodable form, and

a device configured to replace the digitized audio signal S_1 , which is not in decodable form, with the analog audio signal S_2 .

9 (Currently Amended). ~~A system according to claim 7 comprising, at the receiver,~~
A radio broadcasting system comprising including at least one modem using a COFDM technique, said modem being represented in a time frequency space by several elementary cells comprising N available cells, at least one transmitter and at least one receiver, wherein the system comprises at least one of the following elements:

a transmitter, wherein said transmitter includes,

a device configured to distribute signals for transmission of a digitized audio signal S_1 in a number N_1 of cells and signals for the transmission of analog audio signals S_2 in a number N_2 of cells;

a receiver, wherein said receiver includes,

a device configured to differentiate, in a received signal S_r , between at least the digitized audio signal S_1 and the analog audio signal S_2 ,

a device configured to determine if the digitized audio signal S_1 is in decodable form,

a device configured to replace the digitized audio signal S_1 , which is not in decodable form, with the analog audio signal S_2 , and

a device ~~adapted~~ configured to ~~performing~~ ~~perform~~ processing operations on the analog audio signal S_2 , wherein said processing operations include at least ~~rejecting~~ ~~such as the rejection of the~~ background noise.

10 (Currently Amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The system according to any one of ~~[[the]]~~ claims 7 to 9, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a number of cells N_1 ranges from 50% to 80% of the value of ~~[[the]]~~ a number of free cells N in the modem for a frequency band of about 10 KHz.